

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Office Action mailed on December 9, 2004. Claim amendments, including cancellations, were made to better define one embodiment of the invention, notwithstanding the Applicants' belief that the unamended claims would have been allowable, without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's arguments, and without waiving the right to prosecute the unamended (or similar) claims in another application, for the purpose of furthering Applicants' business goals and expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals. None of the amendments to the claims is related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated so herein. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the originally filed claims in the future.

Applicants note, with appreciation, the indication that Claims 9, 32, 33, 37-41, 43, 44, and 47-53 are allowed and that Claims 23, 24, 55, and 56 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The claims have been amended herein accordingly.


With the amendments to the claims, all of the rejections are moot. Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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